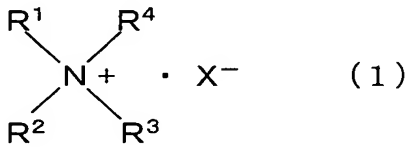
CLAIMS

[1] A lubricating oil additive comprising a quaternary ammonium salt having a base number of at least 10 mgKOH/g.

[2] A lubricating oil additive according to Claim 1, wherein the quaternary ammonium salt is represented by the following general formula (1)

[Chemical formula 1]



(1)

where R^1 to R^4 each independently represent a hydrocarbon group having 1 to 30 carbon atoms, $-R^9O-CO-R^{10}$, or $-R^{11}NH-CO-R^{12}$ (provided that at least one of R^1 to R^4 represents a hydrocarbon group having 1 to 30 carbon atoms), R^9 and R^{11} each represent a hydrocarbon group having 1 to 4 carbon atoms, R^{10} and R^{12} each represent a hydrocarbon group having 1 to 30 carbon atoms or a hydrogen atom, and X^- represents an anionic group.

[3] A lubricating oil additive according to Claim 1 or 2, wherein X is selected from the group consisting of anionic groups derived from carbonic acid, a carbonate, boric acid and an organic carboxylic acid, and a hydroxyl group.

[4] A lubricating oil additive according to any one of Claims 1 to 3, which is used for internal combustion engine lubricating oil or for driving system lubricating oil.

[5] A lubricating oil composition comprising 0.1 to 10% by mass of the lubricating oil additive according to any one of Claims 1 to 4 based on a base oil.